

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
PETERSFIELD

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(1972/73)

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Vice Chairman

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Mr. C.R. Basche (elected 24.1.73)	Mr. M.G. Neale
+ Mrs. E.V. Bulmer J.P.	+ Mrs. H.J. Nicholas
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Mr. H.C. Gillard	

Chairman of the Health Committee

Mrs. E.V. Bulmer

+Members of the Health Committee

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Medical Officer of Health

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Chief Public Health Inspector

J.A. Sedgwick, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector

D.H. Keir

Authorised Meat Inspector

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Clerk

Mrs. L. Williams



PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Health Department,
Town Hall Annexe,
Petersfield.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Petersfield Urban District Council

Sir,

I have the honour to present my last Annual Report to the Council. Whilst the vital statistics relate only to the calendar year 1972, I have endeavoured to include events and, where possible, figures for 1973 as well in order to give as complete an account as possible.

I have also given an account of the reorganisation of the National Health Service generally and in Hampshire. This has been dogged by delays and even at this late date the ground organisation has not yet been decided. Small wonder, then, that few people are aware of the impending changes.

On March 31st, 1974, I shall have completed nearly nine years in the service of the Council since my inauspicious start from a hospital bed in 1965. I am grateful for the kindness and support received from members during that time.

We have been fortunate to retain our staff unchanged during 1972 and 1973. It is unsettling to have to change one's job, and I am grateful to the staff of the department for carrying out their duties conscientiously and efficiently through this difficult period.

I should like to thank the other members of your staff for their co-operation and also many others, doctors, nurses, teachers, social workers and voluntary workers for help readily and willingly given.

It is with pleasure

that I have had the honour to be,

Sir

Your obedient servant



Medical Officer of Health

Petersfield Urban District

The Urban District of Petersfield is an "island" within the rural district of the same name, and comprises the small attractive country town together with a surrounding area of agricultural land. Petersfield is traversed by the main London to Portsmouth road and railway, and both are crossed by an important east/west road link, the A.272 Midhurst to Winchester road. The town has several small manufacturing firms, the largest being the I.T.S. rubber works. It is also an important centre of retail trade, and possesses an abattoir which supplies a wide area.

Area in acres	2,771
Estimated population	9,130
Number of hereditaments (March 31st, 1973)	4,425
Rateable value (March 31st, 1973)	£1,363,283
Sum represented by a penny rate	£13,062
General rate 1972/73 County rate 26p U.D.C. 12p Total - 38p.	

On April 1st, 1974 the district will join with Alton and Petersfield Rural and Alton Urban District to form the East Hampshire District.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Reorganisation of the National Health Service

The National Health Service Reorganisation Act 1973 received the Royal Assent on July 5th, which is later than had been hoped, and, while the main framework of reorganisation is now known, the ground level organisation may not be finally decided by April 1st, 1974, and is not likely to be fully operational until some time later.

Why Reorganise the National Health Service?

When starting the National Health Service it was politically expedient to divide the service into three branches, each with its own separate organisation and administration. The general practitioner, dental and allied services were run by Executive Councils; the hospital and specialist services by Hospital Management Committees responsible to Regional Hospital Boards. Members of all these authorities were appointed by the Minister after consultation. The local authorities, previously responsible for most of the hospital services, retained district nursing, child health, school health, ambulances and other personal health functions. These services were under the control of elected members. Over the twenty-five years of operation of the National Health Service it is plain that communication and co-operation between the three branches has been imperfect, sometimes with detriment to the individual patient, and that the large sums spent on hospital services have not always been spent to the benefit of most people in the community served. The three divisions will now be united under a single administration with the object of overcoming these problems.

There is one serious criticism of the new plan. Social Services are playing an increasingly important role in the care and rehabilitation of the sick, but they remain a function of the new county and metropolitan district councils, whereas the present local government health services will be removed to the new Area Health Authority. The difficulties of this division are recognised but again it is not at present expedient either to make the National Health Service a local government function or Social Services a central government responsibility.

The New Administrative Framework

In England there will be 14 Regional Health Authorities for areas corresponding to the present regional hospital boards. The chairman and members, to a total of about fifteen, will be appointed by the Secretary of State. They will be responsible for strategic planning of the service, for the execution of major building projects, and the provision of certain specialised services, for example the blood transfusion service, and for the co-ordination and supervision of their Area Health Authorities. The latter will be coterminous with the new counties and metropolitan districts (except in London), and will be responsible for the provision of all N.H.S. services in the area. The Chairman and members of the A.H.A. (about fifteen persons) will be appointed by the Secretary of State but must include four members of the corresponding local authority.

Section 10 of the act requires consultative committees to be set up between the County Council and District Councils and the A.H.A. It is thought two at least will be needed, one for education and social services and one for environmental health and infectious disease control to include representatives of all the district councils.

A Health Area may be divided into Health Districts. It is unfortunate that an alternative term to "district" has not been used, as it is easily confused with a local government district. The health district is a geographical area served by district general hospital, that is a hospital providing all the common specialist services. In Hampshire they will be:-

<u>Health District</u>	<u>New L.G. Districts wholly or partly served</u>
North Hampshire	Basingstoke, Hartley Wintney (part) E. Hants (part).
Central Hampshire	Winchester (part) Test Valley (part) Eastleigh (part).
Southampton & S.W. Hants	Southampton, New Forest (part), Test Valley (part) Eastleigh (part) Fareham (part)
Portsmouth & S.E. Hants	Portsmouth, Havant, Gosport, Fareham (part) E. Hants (part) Winchester (part).

Rushmoor and part of Hartley Wintney will be in the Frimley (Surrey) H.D. and the western parts of New Forest and Test Valley will be a part of Salisbury (Wilts) H.D.

Health "Ombudsman"

A Health Commissioner has been appointed to look into complaints about the Health Service in England.

Community Health Councils

Each A.H.A. is required to establish these councils; it is expected there will be one for each health district and that about half the members will be appointed by the local government district(s) served. The councils are consultative and advisory only but the A.H.A. must provide facilities for their meetings. They will publish annual and other reports and the A.H.A. will be required to publish replies to issues raised therein

Family Doctor and Dental Services

There will be no change in the service to patients who will remain registered as at present. The arrangements for changing doctors will be the same except for the fact that the Executive Council(s) will become the Family Practices Committee of the A.H.A. The district nursing services and health visiting service will be unchanged; it is likely attachment of these staff to individual groups of doctors will be even more widely practised than at present.

Hospital Services

There will be no change in the present services. It should be noted that the patient and his doctor will have freedom of choice to attend any hospital as at present.

Medical Officer of Health

This title will disappear after 127 years and the present local authority Health or Public Health departments will be changed. County districts will be responsible for environmental health matters and community health will be the responsibility of the "community physicians" (many of whom will be ex-M.O's. H!) Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires local authorities to appoint officers for the proper discharge of their functions, but relieves them of the obligation to appoint certain officers specified under previous legislation; two of the posts so abolished by title are that of Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector.

Clearly at both county and district levels the new local authorities will need medical advice and section 11 of the N.H.S. Reorganisation Act empowers the A.H.A. to provide staff, services and facilities to the local authorities and vice-versa. The School Health Service will be staffed and provided for the local education authority by the A.H.A., who will also provide medical advice for the Social Services department.

Most new County Districts have set up an environmental health department which will be responsible for many of the functions of existing public health departments. It is intended that the A.H.A. will make the services of a particular doctor available to each local authority district council within the area. Presumably this will be by agreement between the two authorities, and the doctor concerned will have knowledge and experience in local government. It seems probable that the appointment would be on a part-time basis, and that the doctor concerned would be employed on other community health duties for the rest of his time.

For this arrangement to work well it will be necessary for the doctor to gain the confidence and support of members and officers of the district council and to be fully conversant with their policy and affairs. This can only be achieved by attending and taking part in some at least of the committees, officers meetings and working parties.

Medical Officer's of Health and other local authority medical staff provide a staff medical service to a varying degree to the existing authorities; in the smaller district authorities the service is small, but even the smallest of the new county districts will employ numbers sufficient to make the introduction of an organised occupational health service worthwhile.

The A.H.A. will certainly be interested in developing such a service, already operating in two hospital groups in Hampshire. It seems probable that an N.H.S. occupational health service for its staff could provide a similar service for local authority staffs within the area. This would be of advantage to both, for a full occupational health service brings substantial benefits both to the individual employee, and the employer, but requires a considerable number of employees to justify a comprehensive service.

It will be suprising if the N.H.S. is able to put the new organisation into effect on April 1st, 1974 and it is likely that for some months at least many of the community health functions will have to be carried on by the doctors already doing this work for the present local authorities. It is to be hoped that the new local authorities will be tolerant of this situation.

The biggest changes in the reorganisation of the N.H.S. will be in the local authority/community health field and clearly there will be initial confusion and difficulty. But with goodwill and co-operation considerable progress is possible in this field. At its inception in 1948 the N.H.S. was hailed as the best in the world; since then other countries have overtaken us. If we can really progress in community health it could take us to the top of the table again.

STAFF

There were no changes in staff in 1972 or 1973. Miss Boniface was married, but as Mrs. Williams, has continued as clerk to the Department and to the Area Nursing Officer. During 1972 Mrs. Stowe was appointed as a part-time clerk to the Area Nursing Officer, and has helped us by "watching the shop" during holidays or illness.

Mr. Nicholas Payne applied to the authority for attachment as a pupil Public Health Inspector; he had been accepted as an applicant for training by Highbury Technical College for their sandwich course, but all students have to be attached to a recognised Public Health Department for training. The Council was not able to offer Mr. Payne employment as a trainee, but his attachment without salary was agreed. In September 1973 he became a salaried trainee attached to Petersfield Rural District and will continue as such with the new authority in 1974.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Sewage Disposal

The treatment plant has continued to operate efficiently. Negotiations took place in regard to the charge to be made for the reception and treatment of sewage from The Grange Abattoir. This required the collection of a series of samples for chemical analysis and a charge has been levied calculated upon the strength and volume of the sewage received as compared with domestic sewage. Consideration is being given to means of partially purifying this effluent before discharge into the council's sewers; when introduced this should reduce the load upon the council's sewage treatment plant and the charge to the owners of the abattoir.

Refuse Disposal

A once weekly "back door" collection of domestic refuse is made, and disposal is to the tip at Buriton, operated by the Rural District Council. There have been some problems associated with the payment of bonus of which the most difficult remains the use of skips to save time over returning the empty bin. This practice may lead to spilling of items of paper and other light materials as well as causing dust.

Water Supply

The district is supplied by the Mid Southern Water Company. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and sufficient in quantity.

Swimming Pools

The public swimming pool had two good seasons in 1972 and 1973. The clarity and purity of the water was generally satisfactory. Chlorine content and acidity or alkalinity are tested daily. However, it must be understood that when a pool is very heavily used it is not possible to maintain absolute purity without a chlorine concentration which is unpleasant to the users.

Housing

Petersfield Urban District 1972/73

<u>Type</u>	<u>Total at</u> <u>31.12.71</u>	<u>Completed</u> <u>in 1972</u>	<u>Total at</u> <u>31.12.72</u>	<u>Completed</u> <u>in 1973</u>	<u>Total at</u> <u>31.12.73</u>
Council House (units)	549	12	561	6	567
Private Dwellings	-	51	-	66	-

Food Hygiene

Work at The Grange Abattoir increased in 1972 and continues to increase in 1973. During the period reviewed there has been a large increase in the cost of livestock and therefore of meat. Beef has seen the biggest rise, but all other meat has increased in price. Several different causes have contributed to this, of which the policy of doing away with subsidies to farmers to come into line with the E.E.C. agricultural policies and a substantial increase in world prices are principally responsible. Increased meat prices have been followed by increased costs of animal foodstuffs and a severe shortage of protein foods which may limit and perhaps even reduce the numbers of animals reared for meat.

Major extensions to the abattoir received planning approval and work is expected to start in 1974. This should result in increased capacity and also to E.E.C. certification, allowing of export of meat to the community. The present situation requires that any raw meat imported into Europe requires certification by a veterinary surgeon; how this will be achieved in practice has yet to be divulged. During this period of re-building it is intended to continue to slaughter and dress animals as at present and at the same rate. This will cause problems and will require particular care on the part of the staff of the abattoir to maintain their standards of cleanliness and hygiene.

The control of the hygiene of food shops, restaurants and hotels is carried out in conjunction with the County Council's Weights and Measures department and we are grateful to Mr. Preston, the Inspector of Weights and Measures, and his staff for their assistance. Bacteriological investigations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth, whose Director, Dr. D.J.H. Payne and his staff are always most helpful. No outbreak of food poisoning is known to have occurred in Petersfield. This does not mean that there may not have been individual cases, but it is unlikely that there was any serious occurrence.

During the summer of 1973 a form of illness in which an "upset tummy" (colic, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea) was the most common symptom, was widespread in Fareham, Gosport and Portsmouth. Despite most exhaustive investigations, no causative germ could be isolated, but it was clearly an infectious condition, and therefore probably of viral origin. Later studies may confirm this. The same illness seems to have become prevalent in and around Petersfield in September. There has been no evidence to connect the spread of this illness with either water or food.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Family Doctor Service

Dr. A.H. Knowles retired from N.H.S. practice in 1972 and Dr. R.M.S. Cross in 1973. Dr. B.M. Rogers was appointed to the Petersfield practice.

The proposal to build a Health Centre at Petersfield has been shelved; the restricted site presented difficulties in providing adequate facilities, and the building of new health centres has been virtually stopped as part of the restriction of government spending.

During 1972 an additional Health Visitor was appointed for work in and around Petersfield, Mrs. Tyrer, who resigned in 1973 being replaced by Miss J.A. Owen. In the Autumn of 1973 the district nurses and health visitors in Petersfield and the surrounding area became fully attached to the doctors practicing from the Heath Road surgery.

Hospitals

There are two small hospitals in the town, Heathside, a geriatric long stay unit, and Petersfield Hospital. Local doctors provide day to day supervision in both, which are part of the Portsmouth Hospital Group. Certain outpatient diagnostic and treatment facilities are provided at Petersfield Hospital.

Social Services

Yet more changes have been thrust upon this important County Council department. It was wisely decided to organise the field staff in areas corresponding to the new County Districts, so that the Petersfield office ceased to be a branch of the Havant area; Mr. Cattenach, who had been in charge of the old Petersfield "group" moved to Gosport as Area Director and Miss Robertson came from Havant as Area Director, East Hampshire. She retired at the end of 1973; Mr. Ashmead being appointed as her successor. To complete what cannot be regarded as a very satisfactory example of local government planning and administration, the Area Headquarters are expected to move in 1974 to offices in the new Alton Health Centre which is now almost completed. It is to be hoped that the Social Services Department will retain an office in Petersfield with part of the staff of twenty whole and part-time workers operating from Petersfield base.

Child Health

Petersfield Child Health Clinic

Year	Year of Birth				Total Children	Total Attendances
	1973	1972	1971-69	1968-70		
1972	-	120	104	116	340	2,791
1973	114	136	121	-	371	2,431

This continues to be a busy clinic, catering for a number of children from the country around Petersfield as well as from the town. The running of these clinics is much helped by the efforts of a very devoted band of voluntary workers.

Voluntary Services

People who need help find it mostly from relatives and neighbours and from the many voluntary organisations, local or national which provide service.

The British Red Cross Society has premises at Readon Close and they act as agents for the County Health Department in the provision of home loans of medical and nursing equipment. They arrange training courses in home nursing and first aid, run a club for handicapped people.

The Womens Royal Voluntary Service operate a Meals on Wheels service within the Urban District.

There is an "Age Concern" committee based on Petersfield, but covering many of the surrounding rural parishes. This committee operates an amenity food depot once a week at the Town Hall, provides a minibus service in the town, and a Luncheon Club which receives financial support from the County and Urban District Councils. The "Social Activities" for the elderly has continued to thrive and provides a popular centre for learning and practicing a number of different hobbies.

The Handicapped Children's group has grown over the past two years in the support it has attracted and the service it is able to provide for parents and children.

VITAL STATISTICS

Many of the statistics recorded below and the rates derived from them are from too small numbers of observations to be significant, and therefore comparison with the national figures may not be valid.

BIRTHS PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT

YEAR		1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
TOTAL ESTIMATED POPULATION		8610	8580	8730	8980	9130
LIVE BIRTHS (legitimate)	Male	63	65	59	58	69
	Female	65	53	55	52	51
	TOTAL	128	118	114	110	120
LIVE BIRTHS (illegitimate)	Male	3	5	4	5	2
	Female	2	3	-	4	5
	TOTAL	5	8	4	9	7
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS		133	126	118	119	127

BIRTH RATES	CRUDE RATE	15.4	14.7	13.5	13.3	13.9
LIVE BIRTHS/1000	CORRECTED RATE	16.8	16.0	14.7	14.5	15.6
POPULATION	ENGLAND & WALES	16.9	16.3	16.0	16.0	14.8

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS Petersfield	3.7%	6.0%	3.4%	8.0%	6.0%
PER CENT TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS England & Wales	-	8.0%	8.9%	8.0%	9.0%

STILL BIRTHS	LEGITIMATE	2	4	2	4	-
	ILLEGITIMATE	-	-	1	-	-
	TOTAL	2	4	3	4	-
STILL BIRTH RATE PER PETERSFIELD U.D.		14.8	31.0	25.0	33.0	-
1000 BIRTHS (Live & still) ENGLAND & WALES		-	13.0	13.0	12.0	12.0
TOTAL Live and Still Births		135	130	121	123	127

INFANT DEATHS

Infant Mortality Petersfield Urban District

Deaths under 1 year of Age

Category	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Legitimate	2	1	4	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	1	4	-	3
Rate - Petersfield U.D.	15	8	34	-	24.0
England & Wales	18	18	18	18	17.0

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Petersfield Urban District

Deaths under 4 weeks of Age

Category	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Legitimate	1	-	3	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	3	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	3	-	2
Rate - Petersfield U.D.	7.5	-	25.0	-	16.0
England & Wales	12.3	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATES

(Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week
per 1000 live and still Births)

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Petersfield U.D.	22.2	31	49	33	8
England & Wales	25.0	23	23	22	22

DEATHS

Deaths and Death Rates Petersfield Urban District

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Estimated Population	8610	8580	8730	8980	9130
Total Deaths	121	130	121	133	93
Crude Death Rate Petersfield U.D.	15.2	15.2	14.0	14.8	10.2
Corrected Death Rate Petersfield U.D.	12.3	12.8	10.8	11.4	7.3
Death Rate, England & Wales	11.9	11.9	11.7	11.6	12.1

Age Distribution of Deaths Petersfield Urban District 1972

Age	Male	Female	Total	% of all Deaths
Over 75 years	26	26	52	56%
65 years and over	37	30	67	72%

Principal Causes of Death Petersfield Urban District 1972

Cause	Male		Female		Total		% of all deaths	
	1971	1972	1971	1972	1971	1972	1971	1972
Cancer of the lung	6	1	1	4	7	5		
All other cancer	12	7	12	11	24	18		
Total	18	8	13	15	31	23	23%	24%
Cerebrovascular disease	14	5	17	5	31	10	23%	10%
Ischaemic Heart disease	13	10	14	7	27	17	20%	18%

The number of deaths recorded in 1972 was unusually low and the corrected death rate reflects this. However, the numbers are too small for this to be of any significance.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Petersfield Urban District 1972

DISEASE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	2	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	3	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	4	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	5	5
Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	-	1
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1	1
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	10	7	17
Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	3	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	5	5	10
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	6	2	8
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	6	3	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	-	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	2	-	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
All other Accidents	1	-	1
TOTALS	52	41	93

INFECTIOUS and NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Notifications Received. Petersfield Urban District

<u>Disease</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Dysentery	1	-
Encephalitis	-	1
Food Poisoning	6	1
Jaundice	1	-
Measles	2	3
Scarlet Fever	-	1
Tuberculosis (non pulmonary)	2	1

Food Poisoning

Four of the six cases occurring in 1972 were connected with an outbreak of *Salmonella typhimurium* in cattle. The other two cases were sporadic; one was *S. vejle*, a rare type in this country, the patient being probably infected in the Far East. The other was caused by *S. agona* but no source could be traced.

The single case recorded in 1973 was due to *S. enteritidis* and no source of infection could be found.

IMMUNISATION

The table which follows is compiled by the County Medical Officer from computer records and statistics supplied from this office.

Immunisation Statistics Petersfield Urban District 1972

Year of Birth	TRIPLE		DIP-TET		DIPH		POLIO		SMALLPOX		MEASLES	RUBELLA
	Pri.	Reinf	Pri.	Reinf	Pri.	Reinf	Pri.	Reinf	Pri.	Reinf		
72	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
71	21	1	57	-	-	-	80	-	1	-	53	-
70	11	1	24	-	-	-	35	1	-	-	44	-
69	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	-	8	-	12	-
65/68	-	7	1	123	-	-	1	115	-	-	11	-
Others Under 16	-	1	-	34	-	-	-	39	5	26	7	2
TOTAL	33	10	85	157	-	-	121	155	14	26	127	2

Immunisation of School Children

		<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Number of schools involved		5	6
Forms scrutinised		225	342
Numbers fully protected		85	102
Attending school clinic	Polio) Dip/Tet)	43	30
Attending family doctor		24	76
Refusals		6	18
Immunised against German Measles	G.P.	10	12
	School Clinic	57	66
Immunised against Polio/Tet		-	116

IMMUNISATION and TRAVEL

Travellers may be required to produce international certificates of vaccination or immunisation against Smallpox and Yellow Fever. As from 1st January, 1974 there is no longer an international legal requirement for a cholera vaccination certificate. However, certain countries will have reservations and may still require evidence of vaccination before allowing free movement of travellers. Therefore international certificates are still available.

Smallpox and cholera vaccination should be arranged through the general practitioner, whose signature requires verification by the local authority before the certificate is valid. Yellow Fever is available only at certain designated centres of which Southampton and London are the nearest. These certificates do not need verification.

Because the quarantine requirements can change from day to day travellers should consult the carrier who should have up to date information.

Leave plenty of time for carrying out immunisations - at least one month is advisable.

Although there is no legal obligation certain diseases are more prevalent in other countries than in Britain, and immunisation against typhoid fever and other diseases may be wise. A government publication "Health Protection" gives details of this.

Malaria is common in a number of tropical and sub tropical countries; this can be a serious and fatal disease if not treated promptly. There are several effective prophylactic drugs against malaria, e.g. proguanil, chloroquin or pyrimethamine and a supply should be carried and carefully used according to directions if exposed to malaria.

Urban District of Petersfield

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Petersfield.

To:

The Chairman and Members of the
Petersfield Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for 1972 on the sanitary circumstances of the area, and on the duties for which I am responsible.

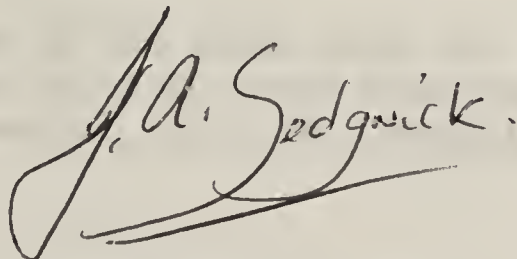
As in previous years the major proportion of the time of the Department is occupied in meat inspection duties at the private abattoir of the Petersfield Wholesale Meat Company, where the throughput showed an increase of 3.88% over the previous year, based on cattle units. Compared with 1967 the throughput shows an overall increase of 72%.

To meet the reasonable demands of the trade there is no alternative but to work outside normal office hours. 24% of all inspections are carried out at such times involving early morning work and regular weekend stand-by duty. Saturday slaughtering is now minimal, mainly consisting of emergency casual slaughter.

The other work of the Department apart from food complaints, calls for no special comments.

There appears to be an increase in the number of food complaints. These are mainly of trivial nature, but wherever action is deemed to be necessary, these are passed on to the Weights and Measures Department of the Hampshire County Council.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support, and I am grateful to the officers and staff of all the Council's Departments for their help and co-operation.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Sedgwick'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

The water undertakers for the area are the Mid Southern Water Board. The majority of the water is obtained from two deep boreholes at Sheet, augmented by spring water from Oakshott. The supply, which is chlorinated and filtered, would appear to be adequate at all times, and I know of no houses in the Urban area which have not a piped supply of water.

The undertakers arrange for regular chemical and bacteriological examination of the water to be made, and the Council is supplied with copies of the relevant reports. These indicate that at no time was the water other than fit for human consumption.

Swimming Baths

There are two swimming baths in the area, namely the Petersfield Swimming Bath adjacent to the Town Hall, and the Churchers College Swimming Bath.

The water in the Petersfield Swimming Bath is tested thrice daily for residual chlorine and pH value, and similar tests are carried out at Churchers Swimming Bath. In both baths a satisfactory standard is maintained.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

So far as I am aware, there are only two pail closets in the area. In addition there are 32 cesspools serving 42 houses.

Public Cleansing

All the roads in the District are kept clean by the Council.

A once weekly collection deals with all domestic refuse, and a separate collection of trade refuse is made.

This service is operated by the Surveyor's Department.

Refuse Tips

There is no refuse tip in the Urban area, but an arrangement has been entered into with the Petersfield Rural District Council whereby refuse from the Urban area is disposed of at the Buriton tip of the Rural District Council.

Shops

Most of the provisions of the Shop Act 1950 are administered by the County Council. All shops, however, receive regular inspections, and advice and instructions given regarding cleanliness, and the maintenance of proper standards of hygiene.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This Act, which became operative during 1964, makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of shop and office workers, and the following information had been recorded.

TABLE A - Registrations and General Inspections

	Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered Premises receiving a general inspection during the year
REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS	Offices	11	52	12
	Retail shops	8	93	20
	Wholesale shops, warehouses	0	4	2
	Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	5	21	12
	Fuel storage depots	0	0	0
	Totals	24	170	46

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS (including General Inspections) TO REGISTERED PREMISES

131

TABLE C - Analysis by Workplace of Persons Employed in Registered Premises at end of Year

	Class of workplace	Number of Persons Employed
ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE	Offices	432
	Retail shops	559
	Wholesale departments, warehouses	50
	Catering establishments open to the public	126
	Canteens	14
	Fuel Storage Depots	0
	Total	1,181
	Total Males	463
	Total Females	718

It was not necessary to institute any proceedings during the year.

At the end of 1972 the total number of registered premises was 170, involving 1,181 employed persons.

All the registered premises (with very minor exceptions,) have been brought up to the required standard, and employers generally have been co-operative.

No complaints were received from employees during the year.

Since the Act came into force, work carried out at premises in response to informal action includes:-

(a) Premises renovated or repaired	26
(b) Premises cleansed and/or re-decorated	24
(c) Abatement of overcrowding	4
(d) Machinery fenced	5
(e) Provision of:-	
Additional water closets	17
Improved water closets	14
Additional wash basins	30
Running hot water	61
Thermometers	63
Improved space heating	12
First Aid equipment	40
Water Supply	2
Soap and Towels	12
Proper seating	13
Clothing accommodation	6
Accommodation for drying clothing	7
Accommodation for meals	10
Improved lighting	11
Improved ventilation	9
Hand rails or guard rails	8
Abstract of Act	24

Caravan Sites

Broadways Caravan Site off The Causeway is now licensed for 175 caravans. Mostly these are dwellings of a superior type, and the site operator is gradually complying with all the requirements of his site licence. This is a very well run and maintained site. Over recent years a proper and adequate supply of water has been laid on, and fire fighting equipment installed to the satisfaction of the County Fire Authority. During the year the inadequate and overloaded septic tank at this site was abandoned, and a connection made to the new sewer laid up to the site by the Council.

There is also a well run site for 25 caravans at Durford Road, in addition to a small number of temporary sites for one or two caravans only, with limited planning permission.

Insect Infestation

Complaints regarding insect pests were of the usual normal variety, and where necessary, visits of inspection were made and advice given in connection with treatment.

General Inspection of the Area

Total number of visits made (including food inspection) ..	1,740
Number of complaints received and dealt with	147

Visits and Inspections

Bakehouses	3
Butchers and Fishmongers	30
Cafes	42
Caravan Sites	8
Drainage	2
Factories	14
Fried Fish Shops	6
Grocers and Confectioners	110
Greengrocers	6
Housing (Public Health and Housing Acts)	186
Hotels	2
Infectious Disease	10
Market	85
Miscellaneous	27
New Buildings	5
Meat Inspection (Grnage Slaughterhouse)	860
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	131
Privies and Cesspools	5
Rodent and Pest Control	203
Schools	5

Rodent Control

Complaints received in connection with the presence of rats were relatively few in number and no serious infestations were located. The sites of all complaints were visited and treated. No sewers were found to be harbouring rats.

ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949
Year Ended 31st December, 1972

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	Type of Property	
	NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1. Number of properties in district	4,342	41
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	144	3
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	126	3
(ii) Mice	13	-
3. a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	47	4
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	12	2
(ii) Mice	1	-

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---|-----|
| (1) | (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act) | - | 76 |
| | (b) Number of inspections for the purpose | - | 181 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | - | 3 |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation | - | 21 |

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their Officers	-	18
---	---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

Proceeding under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | - | NIL |
|---|---|-----|

Proceeding under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition or closing orders were made | - | 1 |
| (2) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was received | - | 2 |

4. Overcrowding:-

No cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK

Milk Supply

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1963, all the milk sold by retail within the Petersfield Urban District must be classified as Untreated, Pasteurised, Sterilised or Ultra Heat Treated. The following table shows the licences issued:-

Total licences issued	12
Untreated	2
Pasteurised	8
Sterilised	2
Ultra Heat Treated	6

Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus

(i) Number of samples of raw milk examined	None
(ii) Number of positive samples found	None
(iii) Action taken in respect of positive samples	None

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

(i) Number of egg pasteurisation plants in district	None
(ii) Number of samples of liquid egg submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test and their results	None
(iii) Comments on the administration of these Regulations	None

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16</u>	<u>Premises to which Regulation 19 applies</u>	<u>Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19</u>
Baker & Confectioner	3	3	3	3
Butchers	7	7	6	6
Cafes and Restaurants	7	7	7	7
Canteens	4	4	4	4
Dairies	1	1	-	-
Fishmongers	1	1	1	1
Fish Restaurants	2	2	2	2
Greengrocer	4	4	4	3
Grocer	17	17	3	3
Public Houses	18	18	7	7
Sweet Shops	5	5	5	-
Ice Cream - (Registered premises)	27	27	-	-

Regular routine visits are made to all food premises in the area. Advice and instruction is given to all food handlers, particularly with regard to personal cleanliness and hygienic practices. In all 207 visits were made for this purpose.

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

				<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>			
1.	<u>Meat</u>			<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>			
(a)	Slaughterhouses	(i)	Carcase meat	17	4	12			
		(ii)	Offal	29	12	14	46	16	26
(b)	Wholesale premises	(i)	Carcase meat	-	-	-	.	.	.
		(ii)	Offal	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c)	Retail shops	(i)	Carcase meat	-	-	96			
		(ii)	Offal	-	-	28	-	1	12
2.	<u>Cooked meat & meat products</u>						-	-	27
3.	<u>Canned meats</u>						-	2	4
4.	<u>Other Canned Foods</u>						-	2	27
5.	<u>Fish (fresh)</u>						-	-	23
6.	<u>Fruit & Vegetables (fresh)</u>						-	-	36
7.	<u>Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown</u>						1	4	27
8.	<u>Other foods</u>						-	-	47
Total							48	7	5

ADULTERATIONS

The law relating to the composition of food and drugs is administered by the County Council. The Food and Drugs Act, 1955, places restrictions on the addition of other substances to any food constituents. Probably the most important section in Part 1 of the Act is section 2, which relates to the sale of food and drugs which are not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchases. Most of the prosecutions which arise are in respect of offences under this section.

I am indebted to Mr. J.S. Preston, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Hampshire County Council for the following information on samples taken in the District during the year:-

During the year ended 31st December, 1972, 128 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the area of the Petersfield Urban District Council.

Milk Samples

Fifteen samples of milk, including four of "Channel Islands", were taken. All were found to be satisfactory.

Other Food and Drugs

113 samples of articles other than milk were submitted for analysis, only three involving adverse reports, none of which called for legal action, although they were the subject of inquiries from the traders concerned. They affected the following products:-

Steak and Kidney Pie - contaminated with mould.

The sample, which consisted of two meat pies, was submitted following a consumer complaint. The pies proved to be out of condition and to be affected by mould growth. After full investigation the case was dealt with by a warning.

Bread - contained discoloured fragments.

The loaf of bread was found to contain a number of small darkish coloured fragments which analysis showed to consist of charred dough. The complaint was not, therefore, regarded very seriously, but it was referred to the bakery company responsible.

Mincemeat - deficient of soluble solids.

This product, a home-made variety, contained 61.5% soluble solids, whereas a minimum of 65% is required by the Food Standards (Preserves) Order. The result, which was doubtless due to the inclusion of insufficient sugar, was referred to the producer.

General

The usual attention was given to the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act regarding the labelling and descriptions of food and drugs. No matters of consequence occurred.

MEAT INSPECTION

The Petersfield Wholesale Meat Company continue to expand their business which is carried on from The Grange Abattoir, with a corresponding increase in staff.

In addition to slaughter for the Company's own use, the abattoir kills an increasing number of animals for private butchers in the area. There is also an expanding kill for individual deep freezer requirements.

Facilities are also available for the emergency slaughter of injured or sick animals.

A full inspection of all carcasses and offal is carried out in accordance with the Regulations. Although it is necessary to carry out certain inspection duties every Saturday, actual slaughtering during the weekend was confined to five Saturdays and Good Friday.

Tuberculosis

It is pleasing to record that out of a total of 59,565 cattle and pigs, only 29 pig heads were found to be affected by Tuberculosis.

Cysticercus Bovis

82 cases of cysticercus bovis were discovered in 1972, compared with 77 in 1971, the majority being single cysts only, and, in appropriate cases the bovine carcasses were submitted to refrigeration.

MEAT INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

Details of Inspection	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	9,988	1,754	389	25,362	47,823
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and cysticerchi</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	28	32	18	114
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,050	653	4	1,137	9,530
Percentage of number inspected infected with diseases other than tuberculosis or cysticerchi	20.54	39.04	9.25	4.55	20.10
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	29
Percentage of number inspected infected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.06
<u>Cysticerchi</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	70	12	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted for treatment by refrigeration	25	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

DISEASES IN FOOD ANIMALS CATTLE Year Ending 31st December, 1972

DISEASES	Whole Carcases All Offal		Hind Quarters		Fore Quarters		Livers		Kidneys		Lungs		Heads and Tongues		Hearts		Spleens and Skirts		Udders	
	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.
Abscesses			4	76	1	14	939	11350	10	94	11	137	15	487						
Actinomycosis													22	731						
Bruising			27	1513	8	359														
Cirrhosis							668	8665												
Contamination											4	50	9	304	1	4				
Cysticercus Bovis (82)													58	1853	81	316	79	182		
Emaciation	11	3634																		
Fascioliasis							568	7467												
Fever-Acute	7	2639																		
Mastitis	2	1070																	44	1185
Nephritis	1	512							73	579										
Oedema	2	635																		
Parasitic Cysts											17	217								
Pericarditis															22	85				
Peritonitis	3	1395	3	62																
Pleurisy											5	65								
Pneumonia	1	220									23	274								
Septicaemia	3	1327																		
Telangiectasis							282	4694												
Arthritis			2	55																
Total	30	11432	36	1706	9	373	2457	32176	83	673	60	743	104	3375	104	405	79	182	44	1185

DISEASES IN FOOD ANIMALS - Year Ending 31st December, 1972

DISEASES	CALVES				SHEEP					
	Carcases		Part Carcases		Carcases		Part Carcases		Lungs	Livers
	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.
Abscessed			1	6			7	39		
Arthritis							23	83		
Blood Splashing							144	441		
Bruising			3	20	2	76	8	32		
Emaciation	4	124			7	170				
Fascioliasis										272 531
Fever - Acute	7	454			4	180				
Immaturity	4	89								
Moribund	1	60								
Oedema					1	34	1	20		
Parasitic Infestation									69 130	578 1118
Peritonitis	1	196			3	177				
Pleurisy	1	52								
Pneumonia	4	433							35 65	
Pyæmia	10	430								
Septicæmia					1	45				
Total	32	1838	4	26	18	682	183	615	104 195	850 1649

DISEASES IN FOOD ANIMALS - Year Ending 31st December, 1972

PIGS

DISEASES	Carcases	Part Carcases Including Heads	Plucks	Lungs	Livers	Hearts
	No. lbs.	No. lbs.	No. lbs.	No. lbs.	No. lbs.	No. lbs.
Abscessed	10 1297	419 4144				
Arthritis	16 1239	237 992				
Blood Splashing		1 5				
Bruising		169 1852				
Cirrhosis					21 62	
Contamination	2 410	2 35	16 91			
Coryne Bacterium		177 1777				
Emaciation	2 79					
Fever - Acute	5 694					
Moribund	2 182					
Oedema	1 33					
Parasitic Infestation					2441 5383	
Pericarditis			459 2650			491 238
Peritonitis	7 746					
Pleurisy	2 141	4 84	1673 9362			
Pneumonia	5 509			3376 7035		
Pyæmia	36 3841					
Pyæmic Arthritis	16 1376					
Septicaemia	5 947					
Tuberculosis		29 286				
Heat Exhaustion	2 194					
Lymphatic Leukaemia	3 193					
Urticaria		15 95				
Total	114 11881	1053 9270	2148 12103	3376 7035	2462 5445	491 238

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspection in connection with health -

DESCRIPTION	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	60	24	2	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1	1	-	-
TOTALS	62	26	2	-

2. Cases in which defects were found -

	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	12	12	-	-	-

METEOROLOGY

A rain guage was installed at the rear of the Town Hall in January 1960 by the West Sussex River Board, and the following information has been compiled from records kept by the Surveyor's Department.

Month	Rainfall		Average Annual Rainfall since 1960	
	m.m's	Inches	m.m's	Inches
January	120.3	4.74	102.2	4.06
February	96.5	3.82	63.2	2.51
March	88.6	3.50	65.8	1.67
April	79.7	3.13	71.7	2.81
May	89.0	3.51	68.9	2.66
June	45.7	1.80	59.0	2.33
July	46.0	1.81	55.4	2.17
August	23.1	0.91	72.0	2.84
September	25.8	1.02	87.0	3.48
October	29.9	1.18	88.7	3.50
November	97.9	3.80	112.7	4.47
December	150.3	5.89	91.8	4.52
TOTAL	892.8	35.11	938.2	37.01

Longest period without measurable rain -
26 days (14th August - 8th September)

Highest daily rainfall -
21.50 m.m. (0.84") on 1st December